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# THE UNIVERSITY Reporter

Volume 10, Number 10

June 2006



## U.S. Senator Barack Obama Tells UMass Boston Graduates: “Now It’s Your Generation’s Turn”

By Lisa Gentes

At UMass Boston’s 38th commencement, U.S. Senator Barack Obama told the graduates of the Class of 2006 to take risks, listen to their inner voice, and continue to make progress in the country and the world.

“Don’t let people talk you out of what you think is the bigger thing,” Obama (D-Illinois) told the graduates about fulfilling their goals and dreams. “Listen to what’s in you.”

Under dark skies and light rain on the Campus Center lawn, wearing ponchos and holding umbrellas of all colors, faculty, family, and friends celebrated the 2,582 who received undergraduate and graduate degrees on June 2.

The senator served as the key-



*“It’s your turn to keep this daringly radical but unfailingly simple notion of America alive,” said Senator Barack Obama in his commencement keynote, “—that no matter where you’re born or how much your parents have; no matter what you look like or what you believe in, you can still rise to become whatever you want.” (Photo by Harry Brett)*

note speaker and received an honorary doctor of laws degree from UMass Boston. Obama noted his famed speech at the 2004 Democratic National Convention (DNC) in Boston. “It’s always good to be back in Boston,” he said, joking about the notoriety he received from that impassioned address at the DNC.

The senator, author, attorney, and activist is the fifth African American to serve in the United States Senate. He was elected in 2004. The Harvard Law School graduate told the students about his father growing up in Kenya, and his family moving to America to pursue their dreams of higher education.

“America is an unlikely place... and you can still rise to become

whatever you want,” he said. Although the pursuit of the American Dream seems common and cliché today, it remains a goal for many, he said.

At commencement, he told graduates to think globally, welcome diversity, empathize with others, and fight for their dreams.

“You are going to be tested and you won’t always succeed,” Obama said. “But know you have it in your power to try.”

The country has survived slavery, depression, and war, and progress has been made in civil rights and world relations; however, “progress is still not good enough,” he said. “There is more work to be done, more justice to be had, more barriers to break down.”

He acknowledged the students’

(Cont. on page 2)

## Former “Lost Boy of the Sudan” Graduates with Hopes to Help Others Who Have Been Displaced

By Ed Hayward

Like so many graduates of the Class of 2006, the future lies before Panther Alier. Unlike so many of his fellow students, his past—an incredible personal history of survival—will never be far behind the 29-year-old.

Forced from his home in the southern Sudan by civil war in 1987, Alier joined a human river of refugees—many, like him, parentless children and teens—and spent 14 years traversing on foot thousands of miles between the Sudan, Ethiopia, and Kenya. In 2001, an international airlift brought him and hundreds of

other “Lost Boys and Girls of the Sudan” to America from the teeming Kakuma Refugee Camp.

Alier, who entered UMass Boston through the Directions for Student Potential (DSP) program, graduated June 2 as an honors student with a major in political science. As he weighs his future options, he knows they will be influenced by the experiences of his life.

“My life has taken many interesting turns,” Alier said in an interview in the Campus Center dining room. “I have spent most of my life in different settings. I am

Sudanese by birth and I still feel a bond to my country and my people. So I find it really hard to situate myself and to think about where I will be. I think the future will determine where I am.”

He would like to return to eastern Africa to help people who have been displaced. He hopes to pursue a career with the United Nations or an international organization that assists refugees. Last summer, he was a chief organizer of the first national conference for the “lost boys and girls” in Phoenix, Ariz. He helped to find the Sudanese Youth Organization and



*Sudanese refugee Panther Alier graduated on June 2 as an honors student with a major in political science. (Photo by Harry Brett)*

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# UMass Boston Graduates Over 2,500 Students on June 2

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activism and involvement in volunteerism and community issues. “The easiest thing in the world is to do nothing,” Obama said. “I hope you don’t do what is easy. I hope you do what is hard.”

Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, called the senator an outspoken, tireless advocate, author, bridge builder, champion of the poor, and voice for the less fortunate.

“Like most Americans, your [Obama’s] journey started from humble beginnings, with a father who had big dreams for a son ...” Collins said. His story is one to which many UMass Boston students can relate, the chancellor said.

“In Swahili, barack means ‘blessed,’” Collins said. “At UMass Boston, we are blessed to have you this morning.”

The chancellor also urged the graduates to make a lifelong commitment to learning, through reading, being inquisitive, and exploring the world.

Also at commencement, the university presented honorary degrees to Marvalene Hughes, president of Dillard University in New Orleans; Thomas Payzant, superintendent of the Boston Public Schools; and Sylvia Poggioli, senior European correspondent for National Public Radio.

Collins presented the Distinguished Service Award to biology professor Kamaljit Bawa; the Distinguished Teaching Award to biology professor John Ebersole; and the Distinguished Scholarship Award to nursing professor Jacqueline Fawcett.

Class of 2006 graduate Catherine Reyes received the John F. Kennedy Award for Academic Excellence and delivered remarks on behalf of her class.



Top: More than 2,500 graduates and undergraduates applaud Senator Obama’s keynote address at UMass Boston’s 38th commencement, held on June 2 on the Campus Center lawn.



Mid-left: Catherine Reyes, who arrived from her native Colombia with her family six years ago and went on to earn a full scholarship and straight A’s as a biochemistry major, delivered student remarks and received the John F. Kennedy Award for Academic Excellence from Chancellor Collins as the Class of 2006’s outstanding undergraduate.

Mid-right: Chancellor’s Award recipients were honored for their contributions: biology professor John Ebersole for teaching; nursing professor Jacqueline Fawcett for scholarship; and biology professor Kamaljit Bawa for service.



Bottom left: The four honorary degree recipients gather with Chancellor Collins (center): Thomas Payzant, superintendent of Boston Public Schools; Marvalene Hughes, president of Dillard University; Sylvia Poggioli, National Public Radio senior European correspondent; and U.S. Senator Barack Obama.

Bottom right: A happy graduate gives a thumbs-up.

(Photos by Harry Brett and Margaret Brett)

The Medford resident moved to the United States six years ago, immigrating legally from Colombia with her family. On a full scholarship, the straight-A student majored in biochemistry and maintained a 4.0 GPA while at UMass Boston.

Reyes addressed the crowd in both Spanish and English. “Today

we celebrate the culmination of four years of hard work,” she said, acknowledging the different backgrounds and circumstances the grads come from.

In a multicultural society, differences need to be valued, she said. When she was 16, her family left Colombia in search of safety and jobs, she said. They immigrated le-

gally to the U.S.; however, other immigrants are not as lucky, she said.

“We need to value our diversity without feeling threatened ... the voice of immigrants, our voice, needs to be heard,” she said, to much applause.

Deval Patrick, a Democratic candidate for governor, attended the commencement ceremonies to

celebrate the graduation of his older sister, Rhonda Sigh, who received her undergraduate degree in psychology.

“We are so thrilled,” he said of Sigh, who had gone back to school after 20 years. She worked full time, was a student full time, and raised a family, Patrick said. “This is why this is a magical place,” he said.

## Panther Alier (cont.)

is a board member of the Sudanese Education Fund. He speaks frequently to school and community groups and this summer he will work as a mentor to DSP students taking classes at the university.

“Having been a refugee for so much of my life, to come back as a service provider would be really great,” Alier said. He said he expects to attend graduate school at

some point in his future and will determine if it is possible to return to the southern Sudan to do relief work. He was in Africa most recently during the fall, when he spent a semester studying in Uganda.

Educated by relief workers and missionaries in impromptu schools without blackboards or books, Alier said he has cherished each course he’s taken at the uni-

versity. “Every single class I took was always something new,” he said. “I will never regret having taken any of them.”

He cites as his mentors DSP director Polly Welsh and ESL instructor Susan Bookbinder, as well as professors Vivian Zamel and Alan Waters. In addition to Waters’ anthropology class, among his favorite courses were Professor Ursula Tafe’s primer on

American government and Professor Primo Vanicelli’s course on international relations.

Alier has left an equally indelible impression upon his mentors. “Panther is one of the most impressive students I have ever had, and one of the most genuine people I have ever known,” Professor Waters wrote about his student. “He is the real deal.”

The country that adopted him

has provided him with a sense of safety and security. His courses have served to strengthen his admiration for democracy.

“The idea of freedom—the whole idea of democracy: everything is included in it,” he said. “I spent almost more than half my life as a dependent. I got here and, after four months, I was told I had to go take on my life. That is the spirit I like.”

## The University Reporter

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The University Reporter at the mailing or  
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# First Annual Empower Disabled Fund Award Aids Student

By Lisa Gentes

UMass Boston celebrated a year of empowering students with disability at an awards party last month, giving the keys to a wheelchair-accessible van to one UMass Boston student.

For the first annual award, the one-year-old Empower Disabled Fund (EDF) at UMass Boston presented an award to Eugene Flaherty at a May 17 ceremony. Darrell Byers, vice chancellor of institutional advancement, handed over the keys to a \$35,000 wheelchair van to the UMass Boston junior and his mother, Jan.

About 25 people gathered for the event, according to Ellen Hume, co-founder of the Empower Disabled Fund. Folks who had never been on campus before “but were inspired by Eugene” at-



*Eugene Flaherty, a junior at UMass Boston, received a wheelchair-accessible van through the first annual award for the Empower Disabled Fund. (Photo by Harry Brett)*

tended the awards party, she said.

“It was very special,” EDF co-founder Sergio Goncalves said of

the ceremony. “We were on top of the world. We were able to achieve by working hard. Empower Disabled Fund is about achieving.”

Award recipient Flaherty, who has had a disability since birth, uses an electric wheelchair and needed to replace his family’s 11-year-old wheelchair-accessible van. “Without a van I can get into, I pretty much don’t leave my house unless I have to,” Flaherty said in a letter. He said his family needed the new van “so that I can continue to be independent, provide service to the community and attend classes.”

Flaherty was selected in 2005 for the first grant, and a fund-raising effort was launched to provide funding for the new grant award and future grants, according to Hume.

Hume said Flaherty had been a student of hers, and about two years ago, she learned his family van failed inspection and was no longer drivable. The UMass Boston student could only travel to places on public transportation, she said. She decided to help, and teamed up with staff member Sergio Goncalves to create the Empower Disabled Fund.

“He’s been a leader,” Hume said of Goncalves.

The fund has helped “two young men who show so much promise,” she said of both award recipient Flaherty and fund co-founder Goncalves.

The EDF has been working on raising money to fund the grants, seeking outside donors and volunteers to pitch in, including William

Thorndike of Trinity Episcopal Church in Boston and Robert Boch of Expressway Motors.

EDF will continue raising funds to provide awards in the future, including a raffle in September. The \$50 raffle tickets provide a chance to win a new Toyota Corolla.

“This took longer and was harder to do than I imagined when I first got involved,” Hume said. “People like Darrell Byers and Charlie Titus led the way through all the difficulties. Sergio and the whole team have a lot to be proud of.”

Byers said overall the first year of EDF went very well. “We hope to continue fund-raising to be able to endow the award so we can help students with disability here forever,” Byers said.

## Chancellor’s Awards Recognize Exceptional Achievement

By Anne-Marie Kent

Addressing the crowd of faculty and staff that filled the Campus Center Ballroom on May 16 for the Chancellor’s Achievement Award Ceremony and Ice Cream Social, Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, recalled his words at inauguration, “For too long, this university has been considered to be ‘just good enough’....” He said, “The Chancellor’s Achievement Award helps change that impression by recognizing and rewarding demonstrated exceptional performance.”

“This new award recognizes exemplary innovation, initiative, or service demonstrated by a member of the UMass Boston classified or professional staff,” said Clare Poirier of the Human Resources Department, who chaired the committee of eight staff members who sorted through the over 40 nomi-

nations for the awards, which were given to one member of the classified and the professional staff. Each award carries with it a \$3,000 stipend.

“I was surprised, honored, and overwhelmed to be the first recipient of this award for the classified staff,” said Shauna Lee Manning, assistant to the Women’s Studies, Communication Studies, American Studies, and American Studies Master’s Programs. “We have so many dedicated and hardworking staff members on our campus; I am deeply touched to have been nominated and selected.”

Lurlene Van Buren, who created UMass Boston’s Study Abroad and Exchange Program, won the professional staff award. At its inception in 1997, the program sent 14 students abroad; now it sends approximately 40 per semester. She



*Shauna Lee Manning (top left) and Lurlene Van Buren (top right) were honored with achievement awards at an event that also recognized the actions of honors student Fabio Dovalle and Public Safety Officer John St. Ives (center) for a heroic rescue. (Photos by Harry Brett)*

was applauded for her initiative in creating and continually expanding the program and the high level of service that she provides to students each semester.

Following the awards presentations, Chancellor Collins presented two Chancellor’s Medals for Valor, recognizing honors student Fabio Dovalle and Public Safety Officer John St. Ives for their “exceptional bravery and outstanding service to our community,” displayed on February 21 when they worked together to rescue a driver whose car had plummeted off University Drive and into the bay.

“There is no question that without the selfless actions of these two individuals, entering the frigid winter waters of Dorchester Bay, the outcome would most likely have been far more tragic,” said Chancellor Collins.

## McCormack School Names Founding Dean

By Lisa Gentes

UMass Boston welcomed Stephen “Steve” Crosby as the new founding dean of the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies earlier this month.

“Priority number one is to find a great chair of the department of public policy and public affairs, and I intend to get focused on that just as quickly as I can,” Crosby said in a *Reporter* interview.

The 61-year-old Brookline resident brings with him nearly 40 years of experience in nonprofit, policy making, and government leadership.

Crosby previously served as chief of staff to former Governor Jane Swift and as secretary of administration and finance to governors

Paul Cellucci and Swift. His responsibilities included development, legislative approval, and implementation of the governor’s \$23 billion operating budget and \$2 to \$3 billion capital budget. As the secretary of administration and finance, he was supervisor for 22 agencies, consisting of 3,000 employees.

The newly appointed UMass Boston dean served as chairman and CEO of Interactive Radio Corp., Inc; SmartRoute Systems, Inc.; Crosby Vandenberg Group; and MetroGuide, Inc. For the last three and a half years, he has served as a volunteer on various nonprofit boards, he said, including the Boston History Collaborative, the Cen-

ter for Applied Special Technologies, The Poverty Institute, and the AIDS Responsibility Project.

He also owns a contract publishing company, CCI/Crosby Publishing in Boston, of which he is founder and publisher.

“What I’m looking forward to is to be a part of building a great, new public policy graduate program on the foundations that are already there,” Crosby said. “But also trying to take it to much greater academic and applied policy visibility and stature,” he said.

Crosby said he came to UMass Boston because he was “looking for an opportunity to get back into a full-time leadership position and wanted it to be in the not-for-profit

world.” He heard about the opportunity at the university and the “expanded McCormack Graduate School under the leadership of Michael Collins and his vision for UMass Boston.”

“I am delighted to see the involvement of staff, faculty and students and the sense of real enthusiasm for the future,” he said of UMass Boston.

Crosby takes over for Edmund Beard who has been serving as interim dean. “Ed Beard has been the heart and soul of the McCormack Institute and the McCormack Graduate School,” says Crosby. “I look forward to the challenge of following in his substantial footprints.”



*Stephen “Steve” Crosby, the new founding dean of the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, began his work at UMass Boston on June 1. (Photo by Harry Brett)*



# Bringing the Best to Nursing Program Celebrates Student Leaders

By Leigh DuPuy

What's the best way to measure the success of the Bringing the Best to Nursing Program? Ask its participants. "The program helped to boost my skills and confidence in my academics and personal life," says second-year nursing student Sherryann Hawkesworth. "It prepares us to be clinically competent, with the abilities to socialize at a professional level." The program also fosters an invaluable sense of belonging for the students. "It's like a family," says Francene Previna.

This workforce diversity and leadership training initiative, known to its participants as BBN, was started three years ago by associate professor of nursing Linda Dumas and was funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources, and Service Administration. More than 110 students have since participated in the program, led by Dumas and project manager Peter Terres.

Through BBN, Dumas and Terres work to enhance the recruit-



*Students and administrators of the Bringing the Best to Nursing Program (from left to right): Peter Terres, Habibo Hirsi, Linda Dumas, Sherryann Hawkesworth, and Francene Previna. (Photo by Harry Brett)*

ment of minority nurses, provide support to retain and graduate diverse nurses, and prepare nurses to work with underserved urban populations. The program provides a support network to its students in the form of stipends, stress-reduction workshops, leadership training cohorts, tutoring, and mentoring opportunities.

Most important, it has fostered a strong connection between its stu-

dents, the college, and the university. "It brings people together," says Habibo Hirsi, a student from Somalia who recently earned a graduate certificate. "It helped me stand on my feet," especially, she notes, after transferring from another institution.

For Hawkesworth, the program's support helped her to balance the responsibilities of her schoolwork and home life. She is a single mother

of three children and regularly wakes up at 3:00 a.m. to get her coursework done before her family gets up. She credits BBN for helping her to network and interact with other students.

"BBN and the nursing program helps me to continue to be a productive, positive role model for my kids, people of color, and single, older and younger moms, leading by example, doing the things I would like them to achieve," she describes.

Hirsi also raves about the confidence she developed while a BBN participant. "I'm not able to do it by myself and it was wonderful," she says. BBN benefits continue for Hirsi; she credits Dumas and the program for giving her the support and guidance in researching how to help her mother living in Somalia come to the United States to get health care.

"We're creating a culture of family," says Dumas, who is applying for a continuation of the grant and will hear in June on the status.

"We've been fine-tuning the program and have found that a little really goes a long way in building that family." She has been thankful for the support of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Dean Greer Glazer, Professor Judith Walsh, and others in helping to foster the program.

"There is a treasure in each of these students—we don't know what it is at first, but we know it's there and this program helps us call it forth," says Terres. He believes the emphasis on leadership training at BBN helps these prospective nurses to be role models.

This is evident in Previna's resourcefulness. The soon-to-be-junior inspired a trip for 32 peers, 26 who are nursing students, to travel to New Orleans for a week to participate in cleanups in homes and hospitals.

"We've learned so much from these wonderful men and women from all over the globe," said Dumas, who is eagerly anticipating the program's continuation.

# Anthropology Lecturer Leads Students in Maya Excavation

By Leigh DuPuy

June may be the start of summer vacation for some, but for others, it's time to roll up the sleeves and dig. Far from our backyard gardens, a dozen UMass Boston students will be working at a Maya excavation site in northwestern Belize. Every summer, Lauren Sullivan, a lecturer in the Anthropology Department, takes a group of undergraduate students with her to investigate archaeological remains in a tropical rain forest.

The Field School in Prehistoric Archaeology in Belize is a course offered by the Anthropology Department through the Division of Corporate, Continuing, and Distance Education. Throughout the month of June, Sullivan and her students will live and work in a



*This June, Anthropology's Lauren Sullivan is leading a group of undergraduates in a field school dig of prehistoric archaeology in northwestern Belize. (Photo by Harry Brett)*

project area and field camp within the Program for Belize Conservation Area, a 260,000-square-foot area of protected lands for flora, wildlife, and archaeological ruins.

"We manage the archaeology at the various sites," says Sullivan

of the field school, which is affiliated with the University of Texas at Austin and is one of several participating at the dig.

She and others help train students in how to excavate. Students will then work at the sites, as well as rotate into doing laboratory work with the artifacts they find. They wash, label, and bag the items they find. "We look at small pieces of a vessel, for example," says Sullivan, "and try to analyze the time period, the shape of the vessel, what its function was, taking into account where it was found."

Sullivan, who has expertise in Mesoamerican and Maya archaeology, provides ceramic analysis for the entire region, helping all the field schools identify the ceramic materials they find.

She describes a typical day as beginning at 5:30 or 6:00 a.m. with a breakfast in the camp's screened dining hall; she and her students then work on site doing excavation work until about 4:00 p.m. The team works six to seven days a week, and during their time off, may visit a Mennonite grocery store. After the field school ends, many students travel to Tikal, the ruins of a Maya city in Guatemala.

A native of New Orleans, Sullivan is not bothered by the humid summer weather and says that the ecology of the rain forest is fascinating. There, she has seen wildlife such as Howler monkeys, jaguars, parrots, and toucans, and she hopes to avoid the many poisonous snakes in the area.

"The people down there are

amazing," says Sullivan, who first came to the area in 1987 as a senior who had taken her first archaeology class as an elective. While initially unimpressed with the realities of camping, Sullivan fell in love with the excavation and has returned there every summer. She went on to earn her doctorate in anthropology at the University of Texas at Austin and has been at UMass Boston since 1998.

Sullivan's field school isn't the only opportunity UMass Boston students have to unearth archaeological findings. Throughout the summer, Anthropology Department faculty lead field studies at Shelter Island, New York, at the Hassanemesitt Woods in Grafton, Massachusetts, and at the Eastern Pequot Reservation in North Stonington, Connecticut.

# Joiner Center Sponsors Eisenhower College Series

By Paul Camacho

Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, greeted eight field-grade officers from all branches of service and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) for a May 3 visit. As part of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Series College Program, students and faculty from the U.S. Army War College were invited to speak at UMass Boston by the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences. Colonel Michael W. Hoadley, a faculty

member at the U.S. Army War College and director of the Eisenhower Series College Program, introduced the panel of fellows.

The forum began with four brief presentations: Lt. Col. Philip C. Skuta of the U.S. Marine Corps discussed the efforts of our military to develop and assist coalition partners to fight terror; Col. Paul J. Wood of the U.S. Army discussed the complex challenges facing our military and emphasized

the role of the National Guard and the Army Reserve forces; Carolyn Bryan, USAID, discussed the challenges and difficulties of interagency reform; and Capt. Daniel Smith of the U.S. Navy presented his thoughts about national security and Iran.

Following these brief presentations, faculty, staff, honor students, and veterans in the audience asked questions of the panelists, touching upon topics such as: the minority composition of

the military today; the role of military contractors in Iraq; the role of public relations and media in Iraq and during war; the impact of technology on our military and its impact on the command structure; and the role of the United States in the world.

The discussion continued well over two and a half hours, with the officers and audience members sharing their opinions, questions, and comments in a spirited but cordial discussion.

The *University Reporter* is going on summer break...

See you in September!

Send news to [news@umb.edu](mailto:news@umb.edu)



# Professor Wins NEH Fellowship for Book on Urban Design in Amsterdam

By Leigh DuPuy

Art professor Nancy Stieber is looking at urban design from a new angle. The latest recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship, she will spend the upcoming year working on her book *The Metaphorical City: Representations of Fin-De-Siècle Amsterdam*, for which she has spent 15 years collecting materials.

An architectural historian, Stieber is fascinated with local urban planning in Amsterdam. “This is a city admired for the concentric circles of canals created by the mercantile elite in the 17th century,” she says. She’s not alone in this admiration; historians have long studied Amsterdam’s urban-planning history, which includes



Nancy Stieber, associate professor of art, won a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship to complete a new book on urban design in Amsterdam in the 1900s. (Photo by Harry Brett)

three major stages: in the 17th century, in the 1900s, led by H.P. Berlage, and a third, in 1935, led by Cor van Eesteren.

“Historians have looked at the

functionality of the city and its urban planning,” says Stieber. “I want to look at how voices, previously unheard, responded to the city in the 1900s. These are the

voices of women, the Catholic population, and the working class.”

She finds herself most interested in the impressions of the city through the eyes of ordinary people. “I want to look at how people relate to a city,” says Stieber, “and am asking questions about what the city and its architecture mean to the people who live there.”

To do this, Stieber has been collecting images of Amsterdam, produced between 1875 and 1925, which range from postcards, posters, and paintings to architectural sculpture, stage settings, and parade floats. “How do visual representations of a city contribute to urban identity?” she asks.

The materials she finds invigo-

rate her. She shares an abbreviated version of a story in which she recently unearthed a published letter in the New-York Historical Society that linked two artifacts she found. “The letter connected the creator of a scrapbook I found in Amsterdam and a photo album I got on eBay,” says Stieber. “Without it, I would not have understood these materials as clearly as I do now.

“That is what is so exciting about research. You have to pursue your leads, especially if you can’t predict exactly where they are going,” she says.

Stieber is excited about the culmination of her project: “I want to see how different people’s impressions of the past influence how they imagine the future.”

## New M/V Columbia Point Ready for Harbor Cruises and More



The M/V Columbia Point provides environmentally friendly transportation for education and research projects in and around the Boston Harbor Islands, as well as a new venue for social activities. (Photo by Jason LeBlanc)

By Leigh DuPuy

Next time you circle University Drive, check out the new boat docked at Fox Point Landing. The long-awaited M/V Columbia Point is now ready for Tuesday Harbor Cruises, education and research trips, and as a new venue for social events.

Crafted with the latest “green” technologies, the U.S. Coast Guard-certified vessel can carry up

to 110 passengers and is extremely versatile in function and design.

“This is the most technologically advanced vessel in the harbor,” says Chris Sweeney, director of the Division of Marine Operations (DMO). The Columbia Point is wired with the latest audiovisual technology and communications systems. Not only does the crew have access to systems such as VHF

radios, audio systems, NavNet, and SmartCraft technology, but Columbia Point passengers can readily share in the experience.

Students on board the floating classroom can watch the depth sounder, radar, and navigation coordinates beamed from the pilothouse to a 46-inch, flat-screen television in the bunkhouse.

“They can see what the captain is seeing,” says Sweeney. This technology is integral to DMO’s development of educational programs and curriculum with area partners. This summer, the Columbia Point crew has 26 school trips planned for K-12 students and undergraduate classes, as well as a dozen outings for the “Science at Sea” harbor tours with the New England Aquarium and more than 100 Boston lighthouse tours in partnership with the National Park Service.

The Columbia Point, says Sweeney, was designed to be very versatile, with removable chairs, tables, and benches, a double bunk

in the pilothouse for overnight research trips, and a standard oceanographic bolt pattern in the deck. The vessel also was designed with multiple docking areas and loading gates to accommodate landing piers of varying sizes.

The vessel was meticulously planned to blend “green” design with function and beauty. “The flooring is made from recycled tires from landfills, the vessel is lit by LED lighting, and the benches are made from recycled Coca-Cola bottles and trash bags,” says Sweeney. “And we are using ‘green’ engines that burn ultra low sulfur fuel.” It is also one of only two ADA-compliant vessels in the harbor today.

Far from looking like a recycled remnant, the vessel boasts a solid, natural marine aluminum hull (with no paint, which reduces maintenance costs), large windows, and a solid mahogany trim throughout its interior.

The Columbia Point will also

be the site for a new entertainment venue for UMass Boston. Sweeney says that this will help to “bridge the gap between our Harbor Campus and the marine environment.” The vessel includes a small galley, and DMO is working with Sodexo to develop menu options. Sweeney is also working with the Campus Center to develop packages for leisure activities and harbor tours for conferences, businesses, and others coming to campus.

Though the university will hold an official christening in July, the Columbia Point is already taking passengers around the Boston Harbor Islands. Chances are, those going down to take advantage of the Tuesday Harbor Cruises, which begin in June, will be aboard the new vessel.

Those interested in reserving the Columbia Point for a function or finding out more about DMO should visit [www.umb.edu/umb/marineops/index.html](http://www.umb.edu/umb/marineops/index.html).

## CPCS Unveils Mural Celebrating the Achievements of Homeless Women

A mural gracing the entrance to the CPCS faculty offices on the third floor of Wheatley Hall was unveiled at a reception held on May 5. Commissioned by friends and colleagues of Marie Kennedy on the occasion of her retirement, the mural celebrates her work and two of the projects that she brought to the college: the Roofless Women’s Action Research Mobilization and the Women in Community Development (WICD). These organizations helped more than thirty low-income and formerly homeless women earn a college education and focus their academic work on issues of impor-

tance in their lives and communities. Both programs were undertaken in partnership with a number of community and public agencies, three of which were represented at the reception—the Women’s Institute for Housing and Economic Development, Project Hope, and the City of Boston Women’s Commission.

Artist John Ewing worked with WICD in developing the design of the mural. Four current WICD students, Michelle Ekanem, Latasha Gorman, Theodora Griffith, and Wanda Scott, earned academic credit through their work developing the design with the artist over

several months. Small images along the bottom of the mural depict various aspects of the lives of the women—from being evicted and homeless to studying together and speaking at a public rally. The large image of women flying in the mural was developed from discussions with the women, who talked about the many competing draws on their time and energy—family, school, jobs, community, and church commitments, their hope of flying more freely once they graduate, and their dedication to helping other women face similar challenges.

—Marie Kennedy



A mural celebrating the work of the Roofless Women’s Action Research Mobilization, Women in Community Development, and of Marie Kennedy at the College of Public and Community Service was unveiled at a May 5 reception. (Photo by Harry Brett)



# CAMPUS NOTES

## PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND LECTURES

**Patrick Barron**, assistant professor of English and the Millicent Mercer Johnson Post-Doctoral Rome Prize Fellow, presented the lecture “Traversing the Majella: A Reading and Slideshow of Recent Work” at the American Academy in Rome.

**Françoise Carré**, research director at the Center for Social Policy, spoke at an MIT Alumnae Leadership Series event and participated at the Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing fourth-annual international general assembly meeting.

**Yung-Ping (Bing) Chen**, the Frank J. Manning Eminent Scholar’s Chair in Gerontology, attended two Society of Actuaries symposiums, “Financial Risks of Longevity” and “Re-Envisioning of Retirement in the 21st Century,” where Chen presented the coauthored paper “Aging of the Elderly: Can Intragenerational Funding Model Help Cope with Improved Longevity?”

**Jay R. Dee**, associate professor in the Department of Leadership in Education, copresented two papers, “Conducting Multiple Paradigm Analyses of Higher Education Organizations” and “Toward a New Theory of Faculty Evaluation,” at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, held in April.

**Susan DeSanto-Madeya**, assistant professor of nursing in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS), presented the research paper “Living Full Lives: Activities of Daily Living in Women with Advanced Breast Cancer” at the Oncology Nursing Society’s 31st Annual Congress. The research is a collaboration with Susan Bauer-Wu, director of the Cantor Center at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

In May, **Jeff Dukes**, assistant professor of biology, presented “Interactions Among Climate Change Drivers—Lessons From the Past” at EPRECOT (Effects of Precipitation Change on Terrestrial ecosystems), a workshop focusing on effects of precipitation change on the functioning of terrestrial ecosystems. He also presented “Responses and Feedbacks to Global Environmental Change: A Grassland Perspective” for the EOS seminar series.

**Arthur Eisenkraft**, Distinguished Professor of Science Education, presented a paper at the Oak Ridge Center for Advanced Studies conference “Creating a Path to Improved K-12 Science and Math Literacy.” He also presented at the Chemical Heritage Foundation’s Leadership Initiative in Science Education Conference.

CNHS’s **Carol Hall Ellenbecker** and **Linda Samia** presented the poster “Predictors of Home Healthcare Nurse Job Retention” at AcademyHealth’s annual research meeting in June.

**Rona Flippo** of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, presented her paper “Oh, the Abuses We’ve Seen! The Research and the ‘Real’ Breadth, Depth, and Levels of Challenge” at the 51st International Reading Association (IRA) Annual Convention and presented at a symposium for the IRA Intellectual Freedom Committee.

**Lawrence G. Franko**, professor of finance in the College of Management, testified on United States competitiveness in the global financial services industry before the Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government-Sponsored Enterprises of the Committee on Financial Services in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The Center for Social Policy’s **Donna Haig Friedman**, director, and **John McGah**, senior research associate, presented at the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness Conference “East Coast Student Summit on Hunger and Homelessness,” held at UMass Boston. Friedman presented on the condition of homeless families and McGah presented on U.S. national policy initiatives regarding homelessness.

The Institute for Community Inclusion’s **Melanie Jordan** discussed the ways that housing staff can promote employment for their tenants for the MassHousing Tenant Assistance Program and the Americans with Disabilities Act for the Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership.

With a STARS grant, nine public policy students, **Phillip Granberry**, **Brandyn Holgate**, **Sarah Hogue**, **Berna Kahraman**, **Mandira Kala**, **Robert Kramer**, **Nicole Lavan**, **Jennifer Shea**, and **Shelley Tinkham**, organized “Social Inequalities in the New Century: A Student Research Conference,” held on April 28. **Barbara Graceffa** was a cochair on the grant.

**Joan Garity**, CNHS associate professor, presented the paper “Differences in Grief and Loss” for the annual conference for the Alzheimer’s Association’s Massachusetts chapter, held on May 3.

**Claire Golomb**, professor emeritus of psychology, contributed the chapter “Artistic Development” for the *Chicago Companion of the Child*, published by the University of Chicago Press, and a chapter with the same title for *The Encyclopedia of Infant and Early Child Development*, published by Elsevier, Oxford, Great Britain.

On May 9, **Carol Hardy-Fanta**, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, was a featured speaker at the 2006 National Forum for Women Executive Leaders in the Federal Government, held in Washington, D.C. Her topic was “Emotional Intelligence: What It Is and How to Use It.”

**Ellen Hume**, director of the Center on Media and Society at the McCormack Graduate School, ran a session on media ethics at Harvard University’s Nieman Foundation conference for college journalists on April 8, and led the discussion “Media Missionaries” on international journalism development at the Salzburg Seminar meeting, held in Washington, D.C., on May 3.

**Kathleen Williams Kafel**, lecturer, **Judith Healey Walsh**, director of the Learning Resource Center, and **Apurva Mehta** presented the results of their study “Transforming Health Care II: The PDA at the Point-of-Care” at the North American Learning Resource Centers Conference in June. The study evaluated the effectiveness of PDAs as a learning tool for nursing students in the clinical setting.

On April 19, **Michelle Kahan**, senior research associate at the Center for Social Policy, presented research on homelessness and homelessness prevention to the MetroWest Continuum of Care for Homeless Services. She also presented “Hunger and Food Support Program Participation: A SEM Model” at the Eastern Sociological Society conference.

**Esther Kingston-Mann**, professor of history and American studies, presented the paper “The Return of Pierre Proudhon: Privatization, Crime, and the Rules of Law” for the Urban Cultural Studies Center at UMass Boston on April 24 and was a panelist for a discussion of *The Fox in the Henhouse: How Privatization Threatens Democracy*, held at the Soros Foundation Open Society Institute on May 3.

**Rick Kugler**, business liaison with the Institute for Community Inclusion, spoke at the Northeast Human Resources Association Diversity Conference, held on April 5. He spoke of disability and diversity, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and successful recruitment of qualified job candidates.

In April, **Natalie Lacireno-Paquet**, assistant professor of educational leadership, presented two papers at the American Educational Research Association annual conference, “A Movement on Hold: The Politics of Charter Schools in Michigan” and “Stayers and Leavers at an Urban Charter School.”

**Scott Maisano**, assistant professor of English, presented the paper “The Catholic Redcrosse: Spenserianism on Stage in Shirley’s *St. Patrick for Ireland*” at the International Spenser Society Conference, held in Toronto.

In April, **David Matz**, director of the Graduate Program in Dispute Resolution, gave the keynote address at the annual meeting of the California Association for Dispute Resolution, and in May, he gave the keynote address at the annual meeting of the Cape Cod Mediation Association.

**Kathleen Golden McAndrew**, CNHS clinical assistant professor and executive director of Health Services, presented “Raves, Robo and Pharming! What’s Going On Out There?,” “The Role of the Advance Practice Nurse in Occupational Health, Where Are We Heading?,” and the seminar “Scientific Foundations and Trends of Occupational Health” for the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses 2006 National Symposium.

Twelve UMass Boston students participated in the Golden Key (GK) International Honour Society’s regional leadership training conference, held in April. The conference planning committee included **Anita Miller**, assistant vice chancellor, and **Christine DePalma**, GK graduate advisor, who presented a workshop on creative fund-raising.

**Mary Oleskiewicz**, assistant professor of music, presented two performances of seventeenth-century Italian music on period flutes with historic keyboard instruments at the National Music Museum in Vermillion, SD in May.

Professor **Susan Opotow** of the Graduate Program in Dispute Resolution, presented the poster “Protecting Birds and Their Habitats: The Psychology of Conservation and Inclusion” for the “Conserving Birds and Human-Dominated Landscapes” conference, sponsored by the Center for Biodiversity and Conversation and held on April 25.

Music professor **David Patterson** served on the panel “Retrospective/Prospective: How Has eLearning Impacted Faculty and Teaching?” for the UMassonline Five-Year Celebration Symposium.

**Melissa Pearrow**, assistant professor in the Department of Counseling and School Psychology, presented at the symposium “Prevention and the Future: A Public Health Model for School Psychology” and conducted a mini-skills training, “The School Psychologists Response with Students Who Self-mutilate,” at the annual convention of the National Association of School Psychologists.

**Sherry H. Penney**, Sherry H. Penney Professor of Leadership in the College of Management, presented “Martha Wright and the Origin of Women’s Discontent” at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians, held on April 21. In June, she delivered the address “What Is a President to Do—Major Challenges Facing Public Institutions?” at the HERS (Higher Education Resource Services) Summer Institute for Women Administrators, held at Bryn Mawr University.

**Alexia Pollack**, assistant professor of biology, presented the seminar “Behavioral Sensitization in a Rat Model of Parkinson’s Disease: Dopamine-Glutamate Interactions” at Smith College on April 24. In May, she presented the poster “Role of A2a Adenosine Receptors in the Development of Dopamine-Mediated Behavioral Sensitization in 6-Hydroxydopamine Lesioned Rats” at a Massachusetts General Hospital conference. Coauthors on the poster include four undergraduates: **Kalynda Gonzales**, **Melissa Maffeo**, **Hallie Lee**, and **Lori Schneider**.

**Laurel E. Radwin**, associate professor in the Department of Nursing, presented “Testing the Quality Health Outcomes Model in Cancer Care” to the health services research doctoral program class at Boston University’s School of Public Health.

Professor **Laurel Radwin** presented “Enhancing Patients’ Trust in Oncology Nursing Care: A Challenge for Nursing Leaders” as a poster at the Oncology Nursing Society Congress 2006. Gail Wilkes, **Linda Curtin**, **Christine Saba**, **Lisa Tracey**, **Joanne Garvey**, **John Whitehouse**, **Camille Sanabria**, **Amber Schrantz**, **Liliana Teixeira**, **Mary Hackel**, and **Kimberly Willis** were copresenters.

**Jennifer Raymond**, senior research associate for the Center for Social Policy and Ph.D. candidate in the Public Policy Program, presented “From Our House to the State House: Massachusetts’ Lesbians’ Political Participation Post Goodridge” at the Eastern Sociological Society conference. She also presented “Lesbians, Marriage, and Political Participation Post Goodridge” at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting and “Free to Be... Married? Understanding the Effects of the Legal Same-Sex Marriage on the Lesbian Community in Greater Boston” at the John W. McCormack School of Policy Studies Student Research Conference.

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# CAMPUS NOTES

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**Steven Rudnick**, associate director of the undergraduate Environmental Studies Program in the Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences (EEOS) Department, and former governor Michael Dukakis were the two invited commentators on a session on Boston Harbor that was part of the May conference “Remaking Boston: The City and Environmental Change over the Centuries.”

**Russell Schutt**, professor of sociology, and **Elizabeth Cruz**, alumna of the Graduate Program in Applied Sociology, presented the poster “Disparities in Satisfaction in a Public Health Screening Program” at the 2006 Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Meeting in Minority Health Policy. Schutt presented a poster at the Harvard Medical School Department of Psychiatry’s 2006 Research Day.

In May, Professor **Russell Schutt** presented “Housing Preferences of Homeless Mentally Ill Persons: Causes, Consequences, and Conundrums” at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Psychiatry Research Seminar and organized the “Teaching Research Methods: Sage Authors’ Forum” at the Harvard Faculty Club.

The Center for Social Development and Education’s **Gary Siperstein**, director, and **Jennifer Norins Bardon** gave two presentations at the 2006 International Summit on Social Inclusion, “Global Attitudes Toward People with Intellectual Disabilities: A Formidable Barrier to Social Inclusion” and “Comprehensive National Survey of Youth Attitudes toward the Inclusion of Students with Intellectual Disabilities.” Siperstein also participated as a panelist for the forum “The Death Penalty: Issues and Expert Testimony in Atkins Hearings.”

**Mohammad H. Tamdgidi**, assistant professor of sociology, presented the paper “From Utopistics to Utopystics, Can the Subaltern Islam Speak?: Integrative Reflections on Potential Contributions of Mysticism, Esoteric Islam, and Sufism to World-Systems Analyses and Praxes of Historical Alternatives” at the 30th Conference of Political Economy of the World-Systems Section of the American Sociological Association, held in April. The conference theme was “Islam and the Modern Orientalist World-System.”

**Yong Tian**, EEOS assistant professor, presented two research articles at the annual conference of the Association of American Geographers 2006, “Up-Scaling the Hydrological Processes in Grazing Hill Lands Using Cellular Automata” and “Individual-Tree Biomass Estimation from LIDAR Data in a Savanna Woodland.”

In May, **Susan Tomlinson**, assistant professor of English, read the paper “‘You Got to Come Home’: Black Women Scholars, Autobiography, and Academic Celebrity” at the conference of the Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the America. She also presented the paper “Passing for What? The Politics of Racial Rejection in Walter White’s *Flight* and *A Man Called White*” at the American Literature Association.

**Judith Healey Walsh**, director of the Learning Resource Center in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, presented the keynote address “Effectiveness of an Evidence-Based Curriculum Module Targeting Safe Patient Handling and Movement” at the New England Nursing Lab Directors Conference, held at Northeastern University on May 12.

In May, **Jack Wiggin**, interim director of the Urban Harbors Institute, taught a six-day immersion course, “Heritage Harbour Revitalization,” for the Cultural Resource and Management Program at the University of Victoria in Victoria, B.C.

The Graduate College of Education’s **Felicia Wilczenski**, associate professor, **Rebecca Schumacher**, assistant professor, and graduate students **Susan Coomey**, **Michael Houlihan**, **Bic Lam**, and **Lori Suher** presented the paper “Promoting Purpose in Youth Through Service-Learning: Authentic Contexts for Personal, Social, Career, and Academic Learning” at the annual conference of the Massachusetts School Counselor Association.

**Meng Zhou**, EEOS associate professor, presented the seminar “Mesoscale Physical Processes and Their Impacts on Iron Supplies and Primary Production in the Southern Drake Passage” at the Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences, held at Rutgers University.

## PUBLICATIONS

College of Management professors **Arindam Bandopadhyaya** and **Anne Jones** coauthored the paper “Measuring Investor Sentiment in Equity Markets,” which was accepted for publication in *Journal of Asset Management*.

**Dick Cluster**, associate director of the Honors Program, published an English translation of Abel Prieto’s novel *The Flight of the Cat* for distribution in the U.S. and Mexico. Cluster has also completed (with Rafael Hernández) *History of Havana*, a popular social history of the Cuban capital, to be published by Palgrave Macmillan.

**Spencer Di Scala**, professor of history, published three articles in *Critica Sociale*: “La Lezione Europea dei Neocons,” “Antisemitismo, una Continuità Tra Sinistra e Fascismo,” and “Il Ventunesimo Sara il Secolo di Mazzini?”

**Carol Hall Ellenbecker**, **Linda Samia**, **Margaret J. Cushman**, and **Frank W. Porell** published the article “Employer Retention Strategies and Their Effect on Nurses Job Satisfaction and Intent to Stay” in *Home Health Care Services Quarterly*. Ellenbecker, Samia, and a colleague also published the article “What Home Healthcare Nurses Are Saying About Their Jobs” in *Home Healthcare Nurse*.

**Joan Garity**, CNHS associate professor, published the research study “Caring for a Family Member with Alzheimer’s Disease: Coping with Care Giver Burden Post-Nursing Home Placement” in *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*.

**Linda Huang**, professor of biology, published a coauthored book chapter, “Genetic Dissection of Developmental Pathways,” in the *WormBook*, edited by The C. elegans Research Community,

The Department of Counseling and School Psychology’s Professor **Rick Houser**, Associate Professor **Felicia Wilczenski**, and Professor Emeritus **Maryanna Ham** published the book *Culturally Relevant Ethical Decision Making in Counseling* with SAGE.

**Natalie Lacireno-Paquet**, assistant professor of educational leadership, published “Charter School Enrollments in Context: An Exploration of Organizational and Policy Influences” in *Peabody Journal of Education*.

**Pepi Leistyna** and **Lilia Bartolomé** of Applied Linguistics conceptualized, edited, and contributed to *Radical Teacher’s* special issue “Countering the English-only Assault.”

A story by **Askold Melnyczuk**, director of the Creative Writing Program, appears in the spring issue of the *Harvard Review*; Melnyczuk’s Arrowsmith Press published three books in May: *The Jim and Other Poems* by Amira El-Zein; *Divided Mind* by George Scialabba; and *Bergstein*, edited by Melnyczuk with an introduction by Deborah Weisgall.

A poem and an essay selected from **Mark Pawlak’s** previous poetry collections appeared in translation in the June Polish American issue of *Nowa Oklica Poetow*, a literary journal published in Poland. Pawlak is the director of Academic Support Programs.

Two poems by **Joyce Peseroff**, Distinguished Lecturer and Poet-in-Resident in the English Department, appeared in *The Sorrow Psalms: Twentieth Century Elegies*, published by the University of Iowa Press in June

**Maximiliane E. Szinovacz**, professor and director of the Gerontology Institute, published the chapter “Families and Retirement” in *New Frontiers of Research on Retirement*, edited by Leroy O. Stone and published by Statistic Canada.

**Peter Taylor’s** article “The Analysis of Variance Is an Analysis of Causes (of a Very Circumscribed Kind)” appeared in *International Journal of Epidemiology*. Taylor is an associate professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

**James Willis**, assistant professor of sociology, had his book reviews of *Policing Contingencies* by Peter Manning and *Policing Hatred: Law Enforcement, Civil Rights, and Hate Crime* by Jeannine Bell published in the journal *Social Forces*.

EEOS associate professor **Meng Zhou** and coauthors published two papers, “Circulation and Behavior of Euphausiids in Norwegian Sub-Arctic Fjords” and “Interactions Between Biological and Environmental Structures on the Coast of Northern Norway,” in *Marine Ecology Progress Series*.

The Institute for Community Inclusion released the first in a series of benchmark reports on state disability services: *The Massachusetts Employment and Disability Snapshot Report*.

## EXHIBITS, FILMS, PERFORMANCES, AND RECORDINGS

*Class Dismissed*, a film by **Pepi Leistyna** of the Department of Applied Linguistics, was replayed on Berlin’s public access TV, Offener Kanal Berlin, and was aired on the Institute for Labor Studies and Research’s Labor Vision, Channel 14 in Rhode Island. It was screened by the Coalition for the Homeless in Louisville, the ACME/Tactical Media Project, the Center for Urban Cultural History, and at the “Labor Notes Building Solidarity from Below” conference.

**Mark Pawlak**, director of Academic Support Programs, gave three readings in April from his new poetry collection, *Official Versions*, which included a UMass Boston reading with **Joyce Peseroff**, a reading at the Arlington Center for the Arts in the Spring Writers and Poets Series, and a reading at Teachers and Writers Collaborative, held in New York.

## GRANTS, RESEARCH, AND PROJECTS

**Gonzalo Bacigalupe**, associate professor and director of the MS Family Therapy Program, was awarded the 2006 Randy Gerson Memorial Grant for Couple/Family/Multigenerational Processes by the American Psychological Foundation for his project “Gluten Free Diet Adherence Among Families with a Celiac Disease Child: Barriers and Successful Strategies.”

**Linda Huang**, professor of biology, received a three-year grant for \$449,749 from the National Science Foundation to study the “Regulation of Morphogenesis During Sporulation.”

**Cheryl Nixon**, assistant professor of English, was awarded a 2006-7 fellowship to perform research at the Clark Library and UCLA’s Center for 17th- and 18th-Century Studies in Los Angeles. The fellowship funds rare book research for a project connecting 18th-century novels and court cases. The fellowship is awarded by the Clark Library and the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies.

Professor **Lorna Rivera** of the College of Public and Community Service was awarded a \$41,000 public service grant from UMass Boston to coordinate the project “Using Multimedia to Promote Awareness of Women and Adult Basic Literacy Education.” Rivera is also working as a research consultant for the Massachusetts Department of Education’s Adult Basic Education Researchers Project.

EEOS professor **William Robinson** and UMass Dartmouth professor Avigitt Gangopadhyay were awarded \$150,000 from the John Adams Innovation Institute for their cross-campus collaborative program “Establishing a Center of Excellence in Applied Ocean Observation Systems.” EEOS faculty **Robert Chen**, **Meng Zhou**, **Gordon Wallace**, **Juanita Urban-Rich**, and **Allen Gontz** are investigators on the project.

**Maximiliane E. Szinovacz**, professor and director of the Gerontology Institute, was awarded a competing continuation on her National Institute on Aging grant for her project “Marriage, Families, and Retirement.” This is a five-year grant totaling \$1,196,011.

**Julia Tripp**, constituent coordinator for the Center for Social Policy, was chosen as one of three from Massachusetts to attend a two-week training with the Georgia Mental Health Certified Peer Specialist Project.

(Cont. on page 8)



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE

The Calendar of Events is published monthly by the Office of University Communications and Community Relations. All events are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted. From off campus, dial (617) 28 and the last five digits below each calendar event.

Submit calendar listings online at [umb.edu/news/calendar/](http://umb.edu/news/calendar/).

## Tuesday 13

**Yoga for All**  
2:30 – 3:30 p.m., Tuesdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center Aerobics Room, 1st Floor. Mixed-level Kripalu yoga class, open to all. Yoga mats will be provided. Students: free. Faculty and staff: \$5.00. Contact: 7-5680 or [linda.jorgensen@umb.edu](mailto:linda.jorgensen@umb.edu).

## Wednesday 14

**Yoga for All**  
1:30 – 2:30 p.m., Wednesdays, McCormack Hall, Beacon Fitness Center Aerobics Room, 1st Floor. Mixed-level Kripalu yoga class, open to all. Yoga mats will be provided. Students: free. Faculty and staff: \$5.00. Contact: 7-5680 or [linda.jorgensen@umb.edu](mailto:linda.jorgensen@umb.edu).

**Eco-Tours of UMass Boston**  
3:00 – 3:40 p.m., Wednesdays, Campus Center, off catwalk, 2nd fl. Learn more about UMass Boston’s eco-friendly practices such as green buildings, energy efficiency, recycling, composting, and biodegradable bags. RSVP to 7-5083 or [umbe.green@umb.edu](mailto:umbe.green@umb.edu).

## Thursday 15

**Alcoholics Anonymous meeting**  
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Thursdays, Campus Center, 4-4201. 12-step recovery meeting for people involved in recovery from alcohol or drug abuse. All are welcome. Contact: 7-7981 or [sgm18@aol.com](mailto:sgm18@aol.com).

**Mindfulness Meditation Group**  
2:30 – 3:00 p.m., McCormack Hall, Interfaith Chapel, 3rd Floor. A mindfulness meditation group open to all. No prior experience required. Sponsored by University Health Services. Contact: 7-5624 or [lauren.mayhew@umb.edu](mailto:lauren.mayhew@umb.edu).

## Friday 16

**20th Annual Athletics Department Golf Tournament**  
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Franklin Park Golf Course, Dorchester. Registration fee: \$125 includes greens and cart fees, golf apparel, golfer gift packages, an awards luncheon and a raffle. Contact: 7-7802 or [david.marsters@umb.edu](mailto:david.marsters@umb.edu).

**The Greek Institute Presents: Mario Frangoulis in Concert**  
8:00 p.m., Sanders Theatre, Memorial Hall, 45 Quincy Street, Cambridge. Frangoulis will perform with musicians from the Esplanade Pops Orchestra, Boston Lyric Opera, Handel and Haydn Society, and Greek musicians, including UMass Boston’s Panagiota Gounari of the Applied Linguistics Program. For tickets, contact 617-547-4770 or 617-496-2222

## Tuesday 20

**Tuesday Harbor Cruises**  
12:00 – 1:15 p.m., Tuesdays, Fox Point Dock. Cruise around the Boston Harbor Islands aboard the *R/V Hurricane* and the new *M/V Columbia Point*. Free with a current and valid UMass ID and \$5.00 without. Tickets given on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations required. Contact: 7-5404.

## Tuesday 27

**Annual Institute on War and Social Consequences: Issues of the War on Terror and in Iraq in the High Schools**  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., held through June 29. Forum to discuss issues and share strategies for teachers discussing issues of war and society. Faculty include Christian Appy, author and professor at UMass Amherst; William Britton, teacher at St. John’s Prep and Vietnam veteran; Cynthia Enloe, author and professor at Clark University; John Fitzgerald, retired teacher, author, and Vietnam veteran; and Michael Klare, author and professor of Hampshire College. Contact: 287-5850 or [paul.atwood@umb.edu](mailto:paul.atwood@umb.edu).

## Miscellaneous

**Beacon Fitness Center**  
McCormack Hall, 1st fl. Open to UMass Boston students, alumni, staff, and faculty. Programs offered include personal training, aerobics classes, massage therapy, orientations and fitness assessments, among other services. Contact: [www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm](http://www.athletics.umb.edu/beacon/index.htm)

**Institute for Community Inclusion: The New England Rehabilitation Training Program**  
Upcoming workshops in Connecticut and Massachusetts. Topics include mental health in employment, job coaching, and innovative community employment and support strategies. Visit [www.nercep.org](http://www.nercep.org) for more information.

**WUMB 91.9 FM Commonwealth Journal**  
Sundays, 7:00 p.m. Interviews with scholars, writers, and public officials examining current issues of interest to the people of Massachusetts. Contact: 7-6900.

# CAMPUS NOTES

## APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

**Laura Bozeman** was appointed program director for the Northeast Regional Teacher Education Programs in Visual Impairments at the Institute for Community Inclusion.

Four teams of undergraduate students competed in the 2nd Annual College of Management Case Competition. Gold Medal standing and the Venture Development Center prize were awarded to **Dianne Cannon**, **Joe Grafton**, and **Karolina Zdzitowiecka**. **Mark Allio** of the Small Business Development Center; **William Koehler**, graduate programs director; and **Andrew Zaleta**, a College of Management Advisory Board member, served as judges this year.

**Paskorn Champrasert**, a second-year graduate student in the Computer Science Department, received one of the two Dr. Robert W. Spayne Research Grants to conduct his MS thesis research on biologically inspired computer networking.

**Elora Chowdhury**, assistant professor of women’s studies, was awarded a “Future of Minority Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship,” which is housed in the Women’s Studies Program at Syracuse University.

**Jay R. Dee**, associate professor in the Department of Leadership in Education, was selected as a fellow for the 2006 Summer Data Policy Institute, sponsored by the National Center for Education Statistics and the National Science Foundation.

GCOE’s **Rona Flippo** was appointed by the International Reading Association (IRA) to the IRA Family Literacy Commission for 2006-2007 and was elected by the College Reading Association (CRA) to their board of directors for 2006-2009. She also was nominated for a 2006 Massachusetts Literacy Champion Award.

The Institute for Community Inclusion’s **Soheila Lopopolo**, also a graduate of UMass Boston, won the James E. Blackwell Prize in Applied Sociology.

CNHS’s **Kathleen Golden McAndrew** was reappointed to the editorial review panel of the *Journal of the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses*.

*Commonwealth Journal*, WUMB-FM’s public affairs program, hosted by author **Barbara Neely**, won “1st Place in Public Affairs” from the Associated Press of Massachusetts and Rhode Island for the sixth year in a row; this year’s award was given for the episode “Cultural Stereotypes and Health” in which Neely interviewed local physician Chidi Achebe, son of author Chinua Achebe.

**Megan Mcmanaman**, Applied Sociology graduate student, was honored at the Student Leadership Awards Banquet on April 4 for her leadership of the Graduate Sociology Student Association.

**Diana M. L. Newman**, CNHS associate professor, was elected the 2006-2008 president of the Nursing Education Alumni Association of Teachers College, Columbia University.

**Mary Oleskiewicz**, assistant professor of music, won the National Flute Association’s 2006 competition for “Newly Published Chamber Music” for her scholarly edition of *Johann Joachim Quantz: Six Quartets for Flute, Violin, Viola, and Basso Continuo*.

**Russell Schutt**, professor of sociology, was recognized at the Student Services STARS Awards Program on May 1 for his organization of the Applied Sociology Career Conference in March, at which Harvard sociologist Robert J. Sampson gave the keynote and Applied Sociology alumni spoke about their careers.

On May 17, **Donna Stewartson**, assistant director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, received the Community Heroes Award for her outstanding community work in the Boston area from State Representative Liz Malia.

## EVENTS

**Meredith Aalto** of the Institute for Community Inclusion celebrated the culmination of the Internet Access for Everyone project at a Carl and Ruth Shapiro Family Foundation event on April 11. The one-year initiative taught basic computer and Internet skills to 52 individuals with disabilities and families from underserved Boston communities.

On April 10, the Center for Social Policy hosted the 2006 HUD New England Regional Homeless Management Information Systems Conference at UMass Boston. **Julia Tripp**, **Michael MacPhee**, **Michael Faris**, **Sheila D’Alessandro**, **Tatjana Meschede**, **Jamie Ennis**, and **John McGah** ran the conference.

## OBITUARY

**Nick Grigg**, database manager at the Institute for Community Inclusion, passed away on April 27 at the age of 25. At ICI, he was instrumental in the research and employment departments, monitoring evaluation and survey data collection and entry.

## CORRECTION

In the May issue, **Rosalina Guity-Joseph**’s name was misspelled in a caption. The *Reporter* regrets the error.

## IN THE NEWS

**Panther Alier**, former “lost boy of the Sudan,” was profiled in the *Boston Globe* on May 28. Alier, an honors student and political science major, graduated on June 2.

**Yung-Ping (Bing) Chen**, the Frank J. Manning Eminent Scholar’s Chair in Gerontology, was interviewed on phased retirement by *U.S. News & World Report*.

**Carol Hardy-Fanta**, director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, provided analysis of the May 1 “Day without Immigrants” events in Boston and nationally for Univision.

The *Boston Globe* interviewed **Joy Gould** of the Institute for Community Inclusion in their April 2 diversity/employment magazine insert. She discussed ways to create a disability-friendly workplace.

**Steven Rudnick**, EEOS associate director of the undergraduate Environmental Studies Program, published the letter to the editor “2 Schools, 2 Tales” in the *Boston Globe* on May 2.

**Brandi Tague**, graduate student in the Program for Women in Politics and Public Policy, published an op-ed on global environmental issues in the *Somerville Journal* on April 27.